

REMARKS

The Examiner's action dated August 1, 2003, has been received and its contents carefully noted.

The indication of allowability of claims 5, 6, 9-11 and 19 is noted with appreciation. In order to place the application in *prima facie* allowable condition, the present amendment places the allowable claims in independent form and cancels all of the remaining claims.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in *prima facie* allowable condition and an early Notice of Allowance is requested.

If the above amendment should not now place the application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call undersigned counsel to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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